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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 6.399,176
Issued: June 4, 2004
Application No. 09/269,723
Filed: June 1, 1999
Patentee: Hubert Francois

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NOTICE

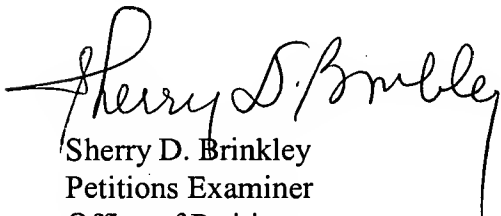
This is a notice regarding your request for acceptance of a fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28. On September 1, 1998, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit held that 37 CFR 1.28(c) is the sole provision governing the time for correction of the erroneous payment of the issue fee as a small entity. See DH Technology v. Synergystex International, Inc. 154 F.3d 1333, 47 USPQ2d 1865 (Fed. Cir. Sept. 1, 1998).

The Office no longer investigates or rejects original or reissue applications under 37 CFR 1.56. **1098 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 502 (January 3, 1989).** Therefore, nothing in this Notice is intended to imply that an investigation was done.

Your fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28 is hereby **ACCEPTED**.

This application no longer qualifies for small entity status. Accordingly, all future fees must be paid at the large entity rate.

Inquiries related to this communication should be directed to the Office of Petitions Staff at (571) 272-3282.


Sherry D. Brinkley
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions